

Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene 201 W. Preston Street • Baltimore, Maryland 21201 Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr., Governor – Nelson J. Sabatini, Secretary

MEMORANDUM

TO: Health Officers H.O.# 03-032

Nursing Directors

Communicable Disease Directors

FROM: Karen Fujii, MHS, Epidemiologist

Division of Outbreak Investigation

THROUGH: David Blythe, MD, MPH

State Epidemiologist (Acting)

DATE: May 5, 2003

SUBJECT: Hepatitis A – Dinner Theater Employees

DHMH has been notified about three Hepatitis A cases (all IgM positive) among employees of Toby's Dinner Theater in Columbia, Maryland. The three employees had no or minimal food handling responsibilities. Symptom onsets for these individuals were March 16, April 20, and April 22.

Immune globulin prophylaxis of patrons is not warranted, as these cases were not involved in high-risk food handling activities. However, Hepatitis A immune globulin was administered to dinner theater employees on Friday, May 2 in an effort to prevent the development of additional employee cases.

EDCP is requesting that local health departments review their surveillance records for cases of Hepatitis A with onset dates of February 1, 2003 and onward. For these cases, please assess for exposure associated with the above establishment and notify EDCP as needed.

If you have any questions regarding this situation, please contact Karen Fujii, EDCP, Division of Outbreak Investigation at 410-767-0770.

Hard copies mailed to CD Directors only.

cc: D. Matuszak J.M. Joseph R. Stringer A. Stephenson

J. Krick